Insecticides Act, 1968 but aerial spraying of Endosulfan may not be allowed in any situation including in PCK plantations to ensure full safety.

Further, as per Government of Kerala, an expert committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. P.K. Sivaraman, Addl. Director of Health Services of Government of Kerala in its report submitted in August, 2003, has stated that it could not find any other reason other than Endosulfan spraying to explain the reported health hazard. The State Government temporarily banned aerial spraying of Endosulfan and declared pesticide holiday for five years. The Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in its order dated 12.8.2002 in O.P. No. 16300/01 has stayed the use of Endosulfan in the State. The State Government is providing free treatment to those, suffering from the reported problems and providing free medicine to the poor patients.

**Status of SCs and STs in AIIMS**

1289. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of reservation given for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; and

(b) what is the status of reservation of Other Backward Classes in AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) AIIMS is providing reservation of 15% and 7½% to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates respectively in admission to various courses except super speciality courses. AIIMS will also provide reservation to Other Backward Classes from the year 2007-08 onwards, in accordance with the provisions of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.

**Prohibition of non-iodised salt**

1290. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-iodised and inferior quality salts are being sold in the markets openly;